

MCGILL FORTNIGHTLY

A Fortnightly Journal of Literature, University Thought and Event.

VOL. III.

MONTREAL, FEBRUARY 8, 1894.

No. 9

McGill Fortnightly.

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The MCGILL FORTNIGHTLY is published by the Students of the University on the Friday of every second week during the College Session.

The annual subscription is \$1.00, payable strictly in advance. Remittance to be made to the Chairman of the Business Board, 85 Union Avenue, Montreal. Single copies may be obtained at Wm. Drysdale & Co.'s, E. M. Renouf's, Cyrus Ashford's, Chapman's and W. Foster Brown's, Booksellers. Price, 10 cents.

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EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

THE DEBATE between representatives of Toronto University and McGill, of which our readers will find a full account in another column, came bravely off the other evening, in the Molson Hall. We should have been glad if our men could have won distinction *and* the debate; but if they were not to win, we know of none by whom it would be pleasanter to be worsted than their skilful and courteous opponents. We heartily congratulate these latter gentlemen upon their well-earned success. It was no mere "walk over" for them, and McGill may be honestly congratulated also, for making a good second. The only party who came out of the encounter absolutely without laurels was the unfortunate Senate. Even the learned judge, in summing up the arguments, was obliged to be a little hard upon this august body; and it is to be hoped that it (the body) may take warning in time, and do the needful, before the decision reached the other evening can be carried into effect.

We do not, however, wish to be thought to make light in any way of these inter-collegiate meetings. On the contrary, we esteem them among the most important events of the college year; and very glad we were, that the large audience both of students and of their friends showed that we are not alone in this opinion. Though we do not think that Canadian Universities have, as yet, given that excessive prominence to athletics which has already grown into an admitted and serious evil in many institutions of learning, it is none the less worth while to remind the public (members of the Universities, of course, need no reminder) that the students have other recreations than foot-ball, cricket and hockey; and that prominent among these other recreations are the literary and debating societies. All men are not born orators—we are inclined to think that the true orator, like the true poet, *nascitur non fit*—but all men can, and as many as possible should, at least learn to express whatever they may have to say, grammatically and intelligibly. We know of no better aid in acquiring this power than such friendly contests as the one that has given rise to these reflections. They develop not only a mastery of language, but, what is better still, a habit of accurate thinking; and both are acquisitions than which nothing can be more valuable to a man, in whatever position he may in after life be placed.

Inter-collegiate debates, moreover, are not apt to be attended with the most serious danger to which the less important contests between members of the same society are exposed;—the danger of arguing upon subjects which one has not taken time or pains to thoroughly study. This, which can be productive only of wordiness, is, as we have said, a danger from which inter-collegiate debates are exempt; since the importance of the occasion is sure to stimulate, if nothing more, careful preparation, before speaking.

We should be heartily glad if the members of our Literary Society could arrange for additional debates with representatives of other Universities.

RUMOURS HAVE LATELY BEEN circulating,—have, in fact, reached the secluded spot where we keep our "board," that, in conformity with the other equipments

of the College, we are to have two skating rinks. We need not say that this thought has caused us considerable sorrow, for we have watched the building of the first rink with far more than ordinary interest, awaiting results which yet we hardly dared hope for. We had even anticipated buying a pair of skates for our own use. But now—now all is changed. We are to have two rinks. We understand, however, that the second rink is at a decided disadvantage, because there is no place to put it: hence it is that we are led to offer the following suggestion. Why not flood the new rink over the old one? We trust this will not be considered an interference on our part. The suggestion is made solely with the desire to help remove embarrassments if we can.

VARISITY *vs.* MCGILL.

THE ANNUAL INTER-COLLEGIATE DEBATE.

This annual contest was held in the Molson Hall, McGill University on Friday evening, the 1st of February, when the Varsity men were successful. Before the appointed hour—eight o'clock—the Hall began to fill with those invited to the evening's entertainment, and by the time the programme was begun the Hall was crowded to its utmost capacity with a most enthusiastic audience. The Students enlivened matters till the chairman, Mr. Hanson, Arts '95, President of the Undergraduates Literary Society, opened the proceedings with a few pointed and well-timed remarks.

Prof. N. W. Trenholme, Q.C., D.C.L., Dean of the Faculty of Law, kindly acted as judge. This year, instead of merely summing up the arguments adduced by both sides, and leaving the decision with the audience, the judge was to give the verdict.

Before the chief part of the programme, the debate, was taken up, Mr. A. E. Heney gave an excellent recitation, and Mr. E. A. Burke, Arts '98, rendered a song in a very capable manner.

The question of debate was: "That it would be unwise to abolish the Canadian Senate." Messrs. W. W. Craig and M. C. Hopkins of McGill spoke on the affirmative side, and Messrs. H. Greenwood and R. L. McKinnon spoke for the negative. Mr. W. W. Craig opened the debate for the affirmative, and in an eloquent manner contended that in life there were many things which, however much our reason might rebel against, could nevertheless not be totally eradicated. One of these evils was, he contended, the division of society into orders and classes which was imposed upon us by the laws of nature, even though contrary to the laws of humanity. The speaker then briefly surveyed the forms of government which had existed since the beginning of history

to the present day, showing that the ruling power which in early times had been vested in one man had gradually come to be exercised by the people. Hence second chambers became an absolute necessity, as was instanced in all governments of the present day, for checking the power which a lower house possessed, and the masses through the lower house. Of such second chambers, the English House of Lords Mr. Craig considered was the most efficient type, and the Canadian Senate, being modelled on lines closely allied to those of the House of Lords, was therefore, as far as practicable, the best second chamber which could exist.

Mr. R. L. McKinnon, who led for the negative, eloquently and severely attacked the arguments set forth by the previous speaker, and maintained that Ontario was a most conspicuous example of an efficient government without a second chamber. This form of government, it was contended by the speaker, aided quick and honest government. The fact that the Canadian Senate was the product of one man was dwelt on, as also the fact that the men appointed were of the same opinions politically as the man who had appointed them, and thus in case of a change of government the Senate would in all probability veto the acts of such a government, even though it, through its lower house, was expressing the popular will of the day.

Mr. M. C. Hopkins followed for the affirmative, and pointed out that all the great nations of the world had found the bi-chamberal system absolutely necessary. The speaker emphasized the fact of the extremely vacillating character of popular will, and claimed that without a second chamber, laws which were the result of years of experience might be swept away without due consideration by the caprice of the people under some pressing momentary excitement. It was only by having a second chamber composed of men who are not affected by every change of party that a stable and efficient form of government could be upheld.

The last speaker, Mr. H. Greenwood of Toronto, who followed for the negative, ably maintained that as the Canadian Senate was wholly out of touch with the electorate, its abolition would be a benefit. It was an insult to the Canadian people to inform them that the men whom they elected to represent them were dishonest and incompetent to govern their country. More especially was the maintenance of a second chamber out of place in a country so thoroughly democratic as Canada, where such a chamber did not represent the opinion of the majority of the electors.

Dean Trenholme, before giving verdict, complimented the speakers on both sides for their very able handling of the question. He reviewed the arguments pro and con, pointing out that the affirmative

had clearly maintained the advisability of a double-chambered government ; but as the question was as to the advisability of the continuance or discontinuance of the Canadian Senate in particular, he must give his verdict in favor of the negative, as they had clearly proved the inefficiency and incapability of this second chamber.

After the mental contest had been closed, the speakers were entertained by the committee at supper. The Committee, to whom the success of the evening's proceedings is due and the trouble entailed of making the necessary arrangements, was composed of the following :

V. E. Mitchell, Law '96, Chairman.
 R. W. Suter, App. Sc. '97.
 N. M. Trenholme, Arts '95.
 R. H. Rogers, Arts '95.
 J. G. Saxe, Arts '97.
 J. C. Colby, Arts '98.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

THE UNIVERSITY OF HEIDELBERG.

I have received of late some enquiries relating to Heidelberg, and, more especially, as to the University, its methods and work ; and will, therefore, seek to give as briefly as is consistent with clearness an account of the things concerned.

Much the best way to reach Heidelberg after arriving in England is to take steamer thence to Ostend, or, better still, to Antwerp, and proceed from there by rail to Cologne. Here, if the season be the summer, one can board the comfortable Rhine steamer ; and, after a day's sail up the Rhine, will arrive in Mayence late in the same evening. From Mayence the journey to Heidelberg is completed by rail, either of two routes being chosen. That by way of Worms and Mannheim is certainly interesting, but hardly so much so as is the alternative route by way of Darmstadt. Arriving in Heidelberg about the middle of the day, the economizing student will leave his trunks and hand-baggage at the railway station, and will at once seek a lodging, so as to avoid the expense of a stay at an hotel. The best way to do this is to go straight to the Lodgings-Commissioner of the University, whose office is to be found on the second floor of the University building, and ask of him the addresses of suitable places, which may then be inspected. Another plan, which is much followed even by strangers, is to furnish one's self with a city newspaper and seek out a lodging from among the advertised rooms. Within five minutes of the University, and not too far to the east is the preferable locality.

The cost of living varies with the tastes of the students. Lodging alone, without light or heating, will cost from five dollars to eight dollars per month for a single room, and from seven to ten dollars for a sleeping apartment and a study. Board ranges between very wide extremes, according to the measure of the students' ideas. If he were a German theological student, he might provide his own meals, and reduce the cost of living to little over five dollars per month. If, on the other hand, luxury were a desideratum, a pension of the better class would be in order ; and there board and lodging together would make the expense about one dollar per day. The poor student has a good chance in Heidelberg, as there are very few calls upon his pocket, except such as he himself may wish to make ; while the simplicity of his living is a matter which is purely private, and need not be known to even the Hausmutter, or landlady, who takes charge of the apartments.

If one is comfortably settled, and the semester or half-year is already open, the student will make his way as soon as convenient to the University Secretary, whose office is likewise on the second floor of the University building, and will communicate to him in good German his wishes. If he be an American, Canadian or English graduate, he will be matriculated ; while, if not a graduate, he can receive only a permission from the University Senate to hear lectures. On presenting himself for admission, there will be an immediate request for a passport or other paper of identification. This, on being handed over, is retained by the University, and, in its stead, a card which confers restricted citizenship is furnished to the student. Such a card is to be carefully kept, as it gives citizenship to the student holding it at whatever University in Germany he may attend during the course of his student life on the Continent. The cost of the matriculation for foreigners is five dollars at the University of Heidelberg, which sum covers the other preliminaries as well.

Once the student has given notice to the administration of his desire to attend lectures, he should ask for a copy of the programme announcing the lectures which are being given during the half year. He is then in position to select a few which he can attend by way of experiment, and, after hearing these, he will be able to judge as to which professors he should elect to hear during the rest of the Semester. The courtesy of a professor will allow a student to hear him once or twice, or even oftener, before a final decision is made. Having made up his mind whom to hear, the individual most concerned takes his Announcement Book, which is given him after the favorable hearing of his application for admission, and, when he has written therein the subjects which he is desirous of taking, he visits the professors con-

cerned, and secures their signatures to the respective entries he has made in his book.

All that remains to be done by way of formality is to pay to the University Bureau, sometime within four or five weeks from the opening of the Semester, the fees for the courses of lectures chosen. In Heidelberg the fees are slightly higher than at some other German Universities, being at the rate of \$1.25 per hour for every hour's lecture attended in the week. Hence, if a student attend a course of lectures in Philosophy, and there are four lectures each week in the subject, the fees *for the whole term* will be determined by multiplying the four hours by \$1.25, so with all other lectures, excepting a few which are given without fee and the lectures in the Theological Faculty where the half-yearly fees are \$1.00 for every hour of lectures during the week. In addition to the lecture fees, there are minor fixed charges amounting to \$1.50 each half year. One of these smaller items is a charge for membership in the Students' Sick Union, an institution which gives the student, if sick during the Semester, free medical care.

The length of the time of attendance required of American or Canadian Colleges before proceeding to a degree is two terms, or semesters. But many students prefer to spend a longer time than this before promoting to the doctorate. A good deal depends upon the student's previous training. Should a Canadian honour graduate in Philosophy wish to promote in Philosophy here, a year might be sufficient; should he, on the other hand, change his course and desire to take Mathematics while here, there would be required very naturally a longer time. The graduation fee is eighty-seven dollars and a half, all of which is paid in advance, and forfeited in case of failure to pass the oral examination. The unfortunate candidate who misses promotion has, however, the opportunity of a second trial at a cost of thirty-seven dollars and a half additional. Besides the fee, there are required a dissertation, which must show thoroughly independent investigation and knowledge, and the passing of an oral examination in three subjects, one of which is selected as chief, a second may be, in Heidelberg, an auxiliary subject, and the third must be something entirely independent of either of the others.

I am very sorry to say that this democratic part of Germany has not yet arrived at the happy stage where women are generally admitted as University students. In Heidelberg they may study natural sciences and, it may be, by private arrangement with the professors, a few other branches in which the number of students attending is very small;—as, for example, Sanscrit or some of the Oriental languages.

If I were asked as to the advantages of studying in Heidelberg, I would mention the beautiful and

healthful situation of the town, the relative cheapness of living, the advantage of a fine University in a city not unpleasantly large yet animated and interesting from many points of view. In connection with the University itself, there is the advantage of a splendid library, comprising 350,000 volumes, exclusive of 150,000 dissertations and pamphlets and 5,000 manuscripts and documents. There are also finely equipped institutes and seminaries for all kinds of practical work, those of the Medical and Natural Science Faculties being especially fine. The large Castle Park and the Botanical Garden are evidences of the privileges afforded to botanists for the study of their chosen science, while the just completed Zoological Institute, has much enriched the possibilities of the University in the direction of Zoology. Among the professors are some very well-known names, such as Kuno-Fischer in Philosophy, Winckelmann and Erdmannsdorfer in History, Czerny and Erb in Medicine, with many others each standing high in his own department of knowledge.

The historical aspect of Heidelberg University would require more attention than can be given to it in an article whose aim is so utilitarian as that of the present contribution. Suffice it to say that no University in Germany is older than is this, the foundation dating back to Elector Rupert I. in 1386 A.D.; nor has any university of the Fatherland had the eventful and tragic course which this has had.

Among the German Universities, Heidelberg ranks in the number of its instructors fifth, excluding from the reckoning private docents and assistants. In the number of students attending lectures its position is eighth. The detailed statement of attendance during the present half-year is as follows: Theology 77, Law 339, Medicine 225, Philosophy 138, Natural Sciences and Mathematics 249, students hearing lectures but not matriculated 202; making a total of 1230 students, of which number 359 are here for the first time. The total attendance represents an increase of 107 over the Winter Semester of last year.

A glance at the nationality of the students gives the following figures: German students 851, English 26, American 30, Canadian 3, Austrian 31, Swiss 23, Russian 25, Dutch 13, Japan 4, Bulgaria 7, other nationalities 15.

The numbers of professors and docents in the various Faculties are as follows: Theology 8, Law 11, Medicine 34, Philosophy 36, Natural Sciences and Mathematics 33.

I have greatly admired the splendid scholarship of these German professors; but perhaps equally to be admired is their intellectual independence. The latter as a matter of course brings with it a great responsibility to both instructor and instructed; and, in particular directions, there is need for considerable

training in independence in thinking on the part of the listening student, as, for example, in philosophy. He may find nothing to which he could object, but he will find many things which he will do well to think over and judge for himself.

No student should feel in coming here that a fixed time will be enough to spend in study in Germany, if he is at liberty to go on until he is reasonably satisfied with the amount of knowledge gained. There are very great possibilities of learning at a German University, so great that even the regulation time of three years' study will not exhaust what is offered in any given subject.

I have been told with some justice in America that German professors have not the faculty of imparting knowledge. This is the case with inferior ones; but the regular professors, in Heidelberg at any rate, lecture with vividness, clearness and with an irresistible hold on the hearer's attention. And, certainly, there is nothing left to be desired as far as their thoughtfulness of the difficulties and peculiar mental constitutions of the individual students is concerned.

I have been asked as to the degree of acquaintance with the language necessary for an advantageous hearing of German lectures, and would reply that, while it is hardly fair to come to Germany and expect favors in the matter of the language, much kindness is shown to foreigners, and the intelligence of a student is not measured according to his knowledge of the speech of the country. It is necessary to have a fair knowledge of German grammar and a small stock of German words to profit at all from what one hears; but a thorough mastery of German, while an immense advantage, is not absolutely indispensable. If one be about to study here, a start in the language in Canada is eminently advisable, and, then, a short preliminary sojourn among German people in their own land will do much to give the required preparation for University work.

WALTER M. PATTON.

Heidelberg, Germany.

ENGLISH BALLAD POETRY.

This title may appear somewhat vague, but was purposely left indefinite, in order that I might be at liberty to select such portions of the subject as would be likely to be most interesting, without being confined to any particular order or epoch. For in a subject of this nature, where the date and authorship of particular compositions are often equally uncertain, it would be evidently impracticable to fix upon any precise period in its history. I shall endeavour, therefore, in the following papers to give a general sketch of the rise and progress of Ballad Poetry in

England, together with a particular account of some of the more important and interesting ballads which have come down to us, and (where the nature of the composition will admit of it) occasional specimens in illustration of their character. With these few observations by way of introduction, I proceed to the subject before us.

In order properly to appreciate the nature and history of ballad-poetry, we shall require to know something of its origin and of the class of men by whom it was first cultivated. As far as our knowledge goes, the ballad appears, at least in England to have been a lineal descendant of the old romantic poetry of the Middle Ages, in which the minstrels, or poets of those days, were accustomed to celebrate the daring exploits and adventures of the heroes of chivalry and to expatiate upon the charms of their mistresses. For, as Spenser informs us:

"It hath been through all ages ever seen,
That with the praise of arms and chivalry,
The prize of beauty still hath joined been."

These minstrels were an order of men, very common in the Middle Ages, who made music and poetry their profession, and were accustomed to sing verses, composed by themselves or others, to the harp, or to recite them, on public occasions or at festivals, to the crowds of people who resorted to the fairs and other places of public entertainment at such times, and with whom they were extremely popular. Many of them, also, more especially those, we may suppose, who were held in the greatest estimation for their poetical or musical talents, appear to have been attached to the Court and the households of the wealthy barons and nobles, who were often themselves lovers or followers of the Art; and in many cases we find them existing as regular officers of the household, whose special duty it was to provide music and poetry for the entertainment of their employers and their guests.

The existence of such a class of men would evidently be indispensable in a rude state of society, where the masses of the people were wholly illiterate and uncultivated, and where even among the higher ranks of life the possession of the knowledge of letters was often regarded as the result of the arts of the magician or the wizard. It was through the agency of the minstrel, whose memory was stored with the legends and popular traditions of former ages, that the knowledge of past events in the history of the people, as well as of their present achievements, was rendered accessible to the popular mind, or transmitted to posterity. With the increase of knowledge, however, and the advancement of learning, circumstances to which the invention of the art of printing imparted a wonderful impulse, the office and profession of the bard—for the minstrel was noth-

ing more than a descendant of the old Celtic or Scandinavian bard or scald—would gradually decline, or would at least become restricted almost exclusively to the amusement or instruction of the lower orders of the people, who would still look to him as their oracle, and regard his songs as the embodiment of their historical and legendary lore. His songs, too, would have undergone a similar transformation, and from having been originally long poems containing the whole history or account of the most important affairs of a nation or of the life of some popular hero, would finally assume the form of short stories in verse, composed in appropriate style and metre, and recording events of no greater moment than a tragic or romantic love-tale or popular local tradition. In other words, they would be ballads, and the highly honoured and respectable poet of romance would have degenerated into the ignoble and itinerant ballad-monger, not unlike those which abound at the present time in the streets of London, and to whom we are indebted for so many of the popular, but not strictly *classical*, compositions of the day.

Such in effect was the result in the case of the English minstrels, although many centuries doubtless elapsed before it was finally brought about, and it is to some of the productions of the poets of this description during these centuries that I propose to devote the greater portion of the following papers. With many of the earlier productions of this sort, however, it would be impracticable to do much in the way of quotation, inasmuch as the antiquity of the language in which they are composed renders them altogether unintelligible without the aid of a glossary.

Of this class, the earliest and probably the finest specimen which we possess is the old heroic song of "Chevy Chase," which was for ages the favourite ballad of the common people of England, and of which, we are told, "Ben Jonson used to say that he would rather have been the author of it than of all his works;" in this only echoing the sentiment of Sir Philip Sidney, who, not long before, had declared that he never heard this old song that he did not find his "heart moved more than with the sound of a trumpet," "although," he adds, "it is sung but by some blind crowder, with no rougher voice than rude style."

The ballad has come down to us in two or three different forms, and perhaps the most ancient of these, as Bishop Percy supposes, may have been the identical song which in the mouth of the old "blind crowder" had so wonderful an effect upon the heroic soul of the brave and noble-hearted Sidney. However this may be, we regret that its rugged character and antiquated dialect will not permit us to do more

than give a passage or two as specimens of the vigorous and war-like strain which pervades it.

The story which it commemorates may be told in few words. The two families of Percy and Douglas, dwelling on the border between England and Scotland, are at deadly feud. By a law of the Marshes, either nation was interdicted from hunting on the territory of the other without leave of the proprietors or their deputies. "Percy, Earl of Northumberland, had vowed to hunt for three days on the Scottish border, without condescending to ask leave from Earl Douglas, Lord Warden of the Marshes." Douglas could not brook the insult, and determines to repel the intruder. A fierce conflict ensues, and, if we may credit the ballad, proves disastrous to both parties, Douglas and Percy, as well as the principal knights among the retainers of each, having fallen in the contest.

The ballad opens in fine martial style :

"The Perce out of Northumbarlande,
And a vowe to God mayd he,
That he wolde hunt in the mountayns
Off Chyviat within dayes thre,
In the maugre of doughtie Douglas,
And all that ever with him be.
The fattiste hearts in all Cheviat
He sayd he wold kill, and cary them away;
'Be my feth,' sayd the doughte Douglas agayn,
'I will let that hontyng yf that I may.'

"Then the Perce out of Banborowe cam,
With him a myghtye meany;
With fifteen hondrith archeres bold;
The wear chosen out of shyars thre.
This began on a Monday at morne
In Cheviat the hillys so he;
The child may rue that ys unborn,
It was the more pittè."

The death of Douglas, who is wounded in the breast by an arrow from the hand of a powerful soldier in the train of Percy, is thus affectingly described :

"Thoroue lyvar and longs bathe
The sharp arrowe is gane,
That never after in all his lyffe days
He spake no wordes but ane,
That was, 'Fyght ye, my merry men, whyllys ye may,
For my lyff days ben gane.'

The Percy leanyde on his brande,
And saw the Duglas de;
He tooke the dede man by the hande,
And sayde, 'Wo's me for the!
To have savyde thy lyffe I wold have parted withe
My landes for years thre,
For a better man of hart, nare of hande,
Was not in all the north countre'."

A more modern version of the ballad of Chevy Chase which has been immortalised by the panegyric of Addison, who devoted two papers of the *Spectator* to a commentary upon it, falls far short of the manliness and spirit of the ancient strain, which in Addison's time had doubtless become obso-

lete, and was destined so to remain, until it was again restored to the world by the diligence of Bishop Percy towards the close of the last century. A better proof of the inferiority of the later production cannot perhaps be found than in the opening passage, which we have already given from the ancient version, and which is thus tamely paraphrased in the modern :

"To drive the deere with hound and horne, Erle Percy took his way,
The child may rue that is unborne the hunting of that day,
The stout Erle of Northumberland a vow to God did make,
His pleasure in the Scottish woods three summers' days to take;
The chiefest harts in Chevy-Chase to kill and bear away,
These tydings to Erle Douglas came in Scotland where he lay," etc.

E. G.

POETRY.

EUTHANASIA.

I stood in a garden of flowers
One sunlit afternoon,
A garden of tangled banks and bowers,
Where the languishing breath of the summer breeze
Made murmurous music through the trees,
And the grey gnats hummed in tune.
A glory hung o'er all the place—
The glory of summer and June ;
It lay on every blossom's face
And painted each leaf with a fairer grace
Than floats o'er the haloed moon ;
It trembled in every passionate sigh
Of the amorous zephyr which flaunted by ;
It glowed in the soft and tremulous light
On arbor and trellis and mossy walls
Pure as the after-glow which falls
From the roaming west when daylight dies—
Dies on the breast of Night.
The lily and jasmine smiled to the rose
And hyacinth blue as the skies ;
Each blossom which lifted its face to the sun
Was fair as the fairest flower that blows
Where Arno's limpid waters run,
On the rivers of Paradise.
The honey-bees and the droning flies
Were crooning their drowsy lullabies,
And tropical birds with lute-like throats
The drooping sprays among
Poured the rich melody of their notes
In a full tide of song.

* * * *

I walked in the garden of flowers,
Plucking its fragrant blooms
And drunk with its sweet perfumes.
I paused where a circle of tulips lay
And breaking one blood-red blossom away
And pressing the glowing petals apart

I found far down in the tulip's heart
A dwelling of sorrow and gloom,
For the bell was a swaying tomb.
In the cup of the tulip flower lying,
Dusty with pollen of lily and rose
Caught from the lips of a thousand blows
Of a thousand varied hues,
A honey-bee lay dying—dying,
Done to the death by sweets that destroy,
By the richness of beauty which kills with joy—
Joy the soul cannot refuse.
Amid a garden of blooms she lay—
Garden of blooms where the radiant air
Is tinted with luminous colors rare,
Where the shimmering light in spray
Is flung from every bank of flowers,
And flies in rainbow shafts and showers
To weave a crown for the brow of day
As she dreams in her floral bowers ;
Where the trembling senses sweetly swoon
Under the rich surfeit
Of odors breathed from every leaf,
And sink in a sea of dreamy grief,
That the leaves must lose their incense sweet
And the flowers fade so soon—
Born at the birth of morning fleet
Must sink and die at noon.

* * * *

I knelt in the garden of flowers,
Mid all its fragrant bloom,
When their glory had fled from the aging hours
As light from a darkened room.
While the choristers sang their requiem song
While a ghostly glare sank low in the sky
And the weary wind, with fitful sigh,
Fled shudderingly along.
And I prayed as I knelt that the glory of youth
Might never depart from life,
That the spirit of beauty and love and truth,
Might dower my soul through woe and ruth
With faith for the hour of strife.
Let me die the death of the honey-bee
In the full flood of satiety
Mid bowers of beauty and love,
While the flames of faith on the altar burn
As fire dropped down from above,
Ere the rich current of life shall turn
And ebb to the gloomy sea—
To that brooding ocean where darkness lies
Mid fitful gleams from the lurid skies,
And the hurricane howls in glee.
If Love be a folly of youthful hearts,
If Beauty like flowers that fade departs,
If Truth be not in the inward parts,
The glory and freshness of earth are fled,
The spirit that walked with me is dead,
And I cannot live alone.

R. MACDOUGALL.

CAMBRIDGE,

IN MEMORIAM MDCCCXCIV.

James Anthony Froude, the English historian and essayist, died October 20th, aged 76. He was one of England's most brilliant men of letters and the most fascinating of historians. Mr. Froude for some years occupied the position of editor of a London magazine. At the time of his death he was Regius Professor of Modern History at Oxford University. Although he wrote much, he wrote well, and in all his voluminous writings there are very few dull pages. His "Short Studies on Great Subjects," his "History of England," and his "Life of Thomas Carlyle," are the three books which occur to the mind when his name is mentioned. But he had a considerable influence over and above that which he exercised through his books. He was a man of strong convictions and some fierce antipathies, which sometimes were on the right side.

Madame de Gasparin, poetess and authoress of a work crowned by the French Academy, died at Geneva, June 18th, aged 81.

Philip Gilbert Hamerton, English artist and *littérateur*, died November 5th, aged 60. He was an eminent writer and critic, who was widely read and thoroughly esteemed in three great countries. He was an Englishman who had chosen to make France his home, and who understood the traits of both nationalities.

The death of Holmes in America, Froude in England, and Hamerton in France removes three great masters of wholesome and beneficent influence upon the life and thought of their generation.

Robert Louis Stevenson, died at Samoa on December 8th, aged 44. He was amongst the most popular of modern writers. The book which established his reputation as a writer of fiction was "Treasure Island," published in 1883, and amongst the most popular of his works was "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde." Perhaps no author in recent years has enlisted so much personal interest on the part of his readers.

Louis Kossuth, died in voluntary exile at Turin, March 20th, aged 92. His career as a public man ended many years ago, and his influence has been really of the historical and posthumous sort, rather than that of a participant in contemporary affairs. His old age was shrouded in disappointment, because he believed that his life had failed to accomplish the great object to which he had devoted it, namely, the political freedom of Hungary. His eloquence, as described by those who heard him on his visit to London and to the United States in 1851, has not been surpassed by any political speaker in this century.

Vicomte Ferdinand De Lesseps, died December 7th,

aged 89. Notwithstanding his disgrace and discomfiture which fell upon him during the last two years of his life, his name will be perpetuated through his scheme to pierce the Isthmus of Suez by means of a canal, and in successfully carrying it out he showed much zeal and indomitable energy. The canal was formally opened on November 17th, 1869, amid a series of festivities.

Such are the names of some who have entered into the haven of rest during the course of 1894, so far as our memory serves us and the space allotted to us permits commemoration. Amid the annals of death we can only name those whom memory and interest cull out for the "lost" of the earth. We have not probably mentioned all who are noteworthy, but we have endeavoured, with honest impartiality, to speak the truth in love of those whom the world has lost, and for whom it rightfully mourns.

As we sum up, in some measure, the losses of the year, we can scarcely avoid reflecting how sad a thing it seems that it should so frequently happen that just at the moment when, as it appears to onlookers, a thinker has ripened and matured his mind, and is, as it were, ready to bestow on the world some of the results of his life-labours, the functions of being should cease, and he should become like a casket wherein rare jewels are enclosed, but which are locked for ever from the touch of others,—only a husk and a shell, out of whom all virtue is gone. Nature's prime work cannot be perfected thus for naught! Such fruits of the tree of life cannot surely drop from the branches of being for useless decay!

Even upon earth and among us, how mighty are the dead! They give us our laws, letters, customs, education, faith and hope; they excite our gratitude, admiration, memory, reverence, emulation and love; they are the pioneers of our career and the heroes of our aspirations, they have given us being, and they are gone before us to the haven of spirits. Verily the dead are powers, and principalities, and potentates, who rule our spirits from their urns.

H. M.

LAW DINNER.

Once a year (and only once) do the grave and hard-worked students of Law allow themselves to be dragged forcibly away from the contemplation and study of legal tomes, of writs and *alibis*, and other cheerful and mirth-inspiring subjects, and, consequently, nothing but their annual Dinner could draw them from their seclusion. This was held at the Windsor on the night of the 31st of January, and was largely attended by the students, reinforced by the

majority of the professors and a number of graduates of the old Faculty. The popular Dean of the Faculty, Dr. N. W. Trenholme, Q.C., was of course present, and appeared to thoroughly enjoy himself. He takes an active interest in all that pertains to his students, and is deservedly popular amongst them. He, however, kept a watchful eye on them, particularly the Freshmen, lest the festivities should be too much for their quiet and well-regulated dispositions; but no accidents occurred.

Amongst the invited guests were Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper, Minister of Justice; Dr. Alexander Johnson, Acting Principal of the University; Mr. John Dunlop, Q.C., Batonnier of the Bar; and Mr. Lafontaine, Q.C., of Laval University.

At half past eight all proceeded to the Ladies' Ordinary, where an excellent dinner was discussed, whilst Patton's orchestra helped to while away the time between courses. The chairman, Mr. Charles D. Gaudet (who, by the way, was evidently made to preside at dinners,—for a better chair man does not exist), then proposed the toast of the Queen, which was loyally responded to by all present. He then briefly touched on matters of interest to the Law Faculty, alluded to the presence of so many distinguished guests, and after speaking in a kind of fatherly way to his fellow-students, was loudly cheered on resuming his seat. He was followed by Mr. S. Carmichael, who eloquently extolled Alma Mater, and proposed her health in a ringing speech. He referred to the unity at present existing between all the Faculties, and hoped it would continue to grow. The Acting Principal, Dr. Johnson, responded in one of his clever and characteristic speeches, and it was clearly evidenced that the learned Doctor is cognizant of, and takes a deep interest in, all matters connected with each and every Faculty in the University.

Before closing, the Acting Principal proposed the toast of the Minister of Justice, who, on rising to respond, was greeted with prolonged applause and cheers by the enthusiastic students.

He made a most clever and able speech, never allowing interest to flag for a moment; and although he did not (as he said he would when he began) let his hearers into any State secrets, yet he told them many things of interest both as Law students and as Canadians, and referred in eloquent and tender terms to his great leader, lately deceased.

Three hearty cheers and a "tiger" were given him when he sat down.

Mr. E. B. Devlin, '95, proposed the health of the Dean and Professors, and, needless to say, it was received with enthusiastic applause, for the students are proud of their Dean and professors, and clearly showed it.

Dr. Trenholme, Prof. (Justice) Doherty, and Prof.

McGoun replied to the toast in eloquent speeches, and the regard in which they are held was easy to be seen. In the course of his remarks the Dean referred to the rapid strides made by this Faculty in the last few years, and spoke of the thorough training it gives.

Mr. W. Donahue proposed the Bench and Bar. Mr. Justice Archibald replied for the Bench, and Hon. J. S. Hall, Q.C., M.P.P., and Mr. Alex. Falconer for the Bar. Judge Archibald spoke of the age and dignity which are always associated with the Bench, and the duty devolving on all to uphold them.

The toast of Laval University was proposed by Mr. R. T. Mullin in graceful terms, and eloquently responded to by Mr. Eugène Lafontaine, Q.C., LL.D. After the toast of the "Sister Faculties" had been done full justice to by Mr. J. P. Whelan, Mr. A. W. Duclos, B.A., gave the "Graduating Class," to which Mr. J. A. Devlin responded. The last toast was that of the "Freshmen," proposed by Mr. J. P. Landry, and responded to by Mr. J. A. Cooke.

The Secretary during the evening read letters of regret at being unable to be present from the Hon. Mr. Taillon, Hon. Chas. T. Casgrain, Hon. Wilfrid Laurier, and Mr. W. C. McDonald.

Mr. C. D. White and Mr. E. N. Armstrong contributed greatly to the evening's enjoyment by their songs, that of Mr. White being deservedly encored.

At the close of the evening the Dean proposed Mr. Gaudet's health, and the students drank it with such vim that one would never have thought they had been drinking healths all night.

Thus ended one of the jolliest dinners in history of the Law Faculty, and the "limbs" of the law thoughtfully wended their way home, reflecting sadly on the hard fate which prevented them enjoying themselves often in a like manner.

(Translations from Mons. L. H. Fréchette.)

IMPROMPTU.

The splendour of the mighty forest charms me;
To view some mountain-top to me is sweet,
But nought can equal still the grace which warms me
In this fair flower that glows beneath my feet.

O headlands bold, in all your pride reflected
In the still depths of the dark Saguenay!
Steep-rising cliffs by wondering crowds inspected!
Rock, with your crown by lightning torn away!

Bare promontories, whose sharp ridges glisten
On the far confines of immensity;
I bow my head beneath your shade, and listen,
In silent awe of your dread majesty.

Yet, giant peaks, whom heav'n itself adorneth,
Hills which defy man's sight your forms to grasp
All your magnificence my spirit scorneth
For the soft touch of friendship's kindly clasp!

SUPPLEMENTAL.

The Xmas snow was falling fast,
 As up the "avenue" there passed,
 A youth, who bore, mid snow and sleet,
 A new umbrella rolled up neat.
 As quick with fleeting feet he sped,
 To see if he had come out head,
 A vision haunted him, which said,
 Supplemental.

But up the path he pranced with glee,
 He must be first and so must *She*,
 Donalda fairest, whom his heart's
 Emotion favoured more than *Arts*,
 He knew the contour of that cheek,
 Far better than he knew his Greek.

Still did that haunting demon speak
 Supplemental.

His fancy floated on, to days
 Some years beyond, when two M.A.'s
 Should enter church and come out one;
 Then up the steps he made a run,
 First class? well she was there, his vim
 Grew less as he the lists did skim
 For her the first class; but for him,
 Supplemental.

SOCIETIES.

Y.M.C.A.

On Jan. 27th we again had the pleasure of hearing Sir William Dawson speak on the subject "Sinai and the Desert." He gave a graphic description of the march of the chosen nation towards Sinai, and pointed out many practical lessons suggested by their sojourn at that sacred spot.

On the 3rd inst. Principal Barbour, in his own pleasant way, gave an introduction to the Book of Numbers. He emphasized the need of remembering the historical setting of many of the events of that period which appear to us of doubtful propriety.

Professor Scrimger, D.D., will speak next Sunday on the relation of the Decalogue to the Sermon on the Mount; and on the 17th Sir Wm. Dawson will again address us on the subject, "Deuteronomy as a Mosaic Book."

Remember the Annual Meeting of the Association, Saturday evening, 8 o'clock, in Arts class-room, No. I.

Y. W. C. A.

Miss Radford led the Devotional Meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 30th, and the subject "Whole-Hearted Service" was clearly explained. We are pleased to

be able to report that the attendance was much larger than that of the week before.

On Jan. 31st the Annual Business Meeting was held to report the progress of the Association during the year just ended, and to elect officers for the ensuing year. The reports show a larger membership roll, good attendance at the meetings and more practical work done. It was decided to have a committee, to be known as the Relief Committee, for the purpose of making clothing for and visiting the poor. Miss Reid was appointed to send to the FORTNIGHTLY reports of the doings of the Y. W. C. A.

The officers for the year 1895-6 are:

Pres.—Miss Vaudry.

Vice-Pres.—Miss Smith.

Treas.—Miss Steen.

Corresponding Secy.—Miss Walbridge.

Recording Secy.—Miss Cowan.

DELTA SIGMA SOCIETY.

That middy who will not stand by the old ship when she has sprung a leak is base indeed; but what of him who deserts her while she is still sound, though needing "all hands on deck" to avoid threatening dangers?

At the last meeting of this Society the Debate: "Resolved, that the progress of civilization is not conducive to the growth of morality" bore but a faithful few aloft on its waves of eloquence. Eloquent it was, for Miss Whiteaves debated on the affirmative, as did also Miss S. E. Cameron, while Miss Armstrong and Miss Wilson upheld the negative. Let it be noticed that these are four of our Seniors, and, therefore, if for no other reason, deserving of a large audience. But there were other reasons: the arguments were sound, the preparation careful, and "my friends" were never so passionately appealed to nor so convincingly either, for the "friendly" (also affirmative) side won. May those who might have heard this debate, and did not, seriously ponder the lost opportunity!

These public rebukes are painful to deliver. Give us "bumper houses" in future and spare the necessity.

GLASS REPORTS.

SCIENCE JOTTINGS.

The undergraduates of the Faculty of Applied Science meet on Feb. 8th for their Annual Dinner. The committee report a large number of tickets sold, and as these gentlemen have been particularly anxious of late, we may assume that the dinner will be a success

Prof. in Metallurgy, to Fourth Year miners.—“Put the charge in the muffle, and run for twenty minutes.”

W.—“Please, sir, is it apt to explode that you have to run away?”

Although the terms “a pure shear” or “a tensions” may be expressive, yet nothing so well describes a certain molecular action as the little word “squeeze”—so we are told.

Our Freshmen seem to be aiming rather high this year. One of them was seen last Saturday starting in a race with Johnson and Donoghue as the only other competitors. He obtained third place.

To determine the number of bacteria in a cubic centimeter of average water supply, make up the following mixture :—

- R. 25 parts gelatine.
- 15 “ Johnston’s Fluid Extract of Beef.
- 20 “ Peptonized Porter.
- One spoonful sugar.
- One pork chop (broiled).

Mix, heat gently, let it cool, put in the sample of water, and then let it form into a jelly. When the gentlemen have fed for a day or two on this in the sunlight, they will become nice and fat, and may be easily counted. Overfeeding, however, must be guarded against.

ARTS CLASS REPORTS.

The query that one now hears passing among the Seniors is certainly not very elegant ; but here it is : “Have you had your ‘mug snatched’?”

Mr. Fred R. Tooke, '95, who represented Arts at the Law Dinner, characterizes that event as a “grand affair.” Freddie deeply appreciates the law of hospitality.

Prof. (explaining the Hebrew word for woman).
1st Student.—What word does Solomon use to designate a *hawling woman*, in the verse : It is better to dwell on a corner of a housetop, etc.

2nd Student.—(who envies the chrysanthemum locks of No. 1). Would it not be well for a fellow in such a position to get his hair cut?

Professor.—I would go further : I would advise him to have no hair at all.

The Sophomores held a meeting on Friday, Feb. 1st, to consider the question of having a great political debate. After a little discussion, it was unanimously resolved that the debate should come off at an early date, pending, of course, the consent of the Faculty. The Conservative and Liberal Camps have selected their men, and from the names of those selected, as well as from the fact of their being pronounced feeling among the men, we may look for a very lively discussion. It is hoped that some of the professors will be secured as judges.

McM—er.—“Down with the cotton combines.”

Down goes Mc—, and a dozen others, and, sure enough, the young zealot’s cry was realized.

Professor.—This is thrown up on the coast of Patagonia and other islands of the Pacific.

Professor.—Yes, read the text first.

K.—Shall I read it in Greek, sir?

McM.—No, read it in Hindi.

There was something quite Homeric in last week’s strife with the Sophomores. Friday morning the well-checked Sophomores crowded the passage near the German class room. Each had a figurative winnowing-fan on his stout shoulder which he was only too willing to have knocked off. We offered a hecatomb of our gowns and Virgils, and engaged in an immortal combat. ’Tis said the gods are mindful of the welfare of men—at all events, their messenger soon arrived with a whole mouthful of the bolts of Zeus. His presence was an inspiration to the all-glorious Freshmen. With a biff-bang-blow! we gained the plain of Phrase-book. Then it was that the well-limbed How—d grasped C—y in a mighty embrace, and both were hurried down the steep ladder from the floor of the house top of the Languages. Neither met his doom. Their souls are not yet gone down to the house of Hades.

The same field saw another sight on Wednesday. The defeat of the Freshmen, although not ignominious, should still be told by the bard of the Sophomores.

Much sincere sorrow was felt by the members of Class '97 when the news of the death of one of their classmates was conveyed to them. Mr. George Eric Harrington, son of our much esteemed Dr. Harrington, died on Jan. 24th, after a somewhat long illness. He was much beloved by his classmates during the short time that he was permitted to be in their ranks, and he was missed by them this year. At a special meeting of the class, a resolution of sympathy with the bereaved family was drawn up, and it was agreed to attend the funeral in a body.

LEGAL BRIEFS.

The morning lecture had finished. The genial Professor of Successions took off his glasses, leaned forward in his chair, and gazed lovingly at the students for a few moments in silence. They saw that something was coming, and cocked their ears accordingly. Something came. "Gentlemen," said he, "I hear that your dinner is coming off to-morrow night. From past experience I have reason to believe that there will be *a difference in the morning*. Consequently I will not lecture on the following morning." Riotous demonstrations of joy followed this remark on the part of the Freshmen; an amused expression passed over the features of the Second Year; while significant winks were exchanged between such old stagers as the Dinner Committee.

And by the same token didn't we see the jolly judge himself at the dinner, eating and drinking and enjoying himself to the full—always in moderation, to be sure; and didn't he make one of the very best and wittiest speeches of the evening. It made no difference to *him* in the morning. But how thoughtful of him to consider *our* wants and necessities. Ah! but he's the kind Irish gentleman!

Mr. Bannell Sawyer, B.C.L., has visited us quite frequently of late. It is pleasant to see occasionally the smiling features of those loved ones who have passed through our mill. Mr. S. was a former class reporter for this Faculty. He always has a hearty shake-hands for Ye Scribe. We understand each other. We are in the craft-knights of the quill, as it were. It is truly comforting to us to get apart for a quiet moment, and to be able to pour into the attentive and appreciative ear of Mr. S. our tale of the difficulties and the arduous duties which are undermining our health in keeping this important Legal Column up to highwater mark. However, Mr. S. has always a supply of lively and cheering little anecdotes to relate,

of the old days when his own shoulders stooped under the responsibilities of this important office; and we are always enlivened and encouraged when we come into contact with him. In spite of it all, we are very much taken up with journalism—both of us; and should the law fail, we intend to embrace that calling. We have the whole thing mapped out. It's to be a twenty-four page evening sheet. Mr. S. will do the double-leaded leaders, and Ye Scribe is to hank around and scrap up news. Personally, we don't think we have got the best of the bargain; but we have lots of time yet. We will think over it.

The Intercollegiate Debate, which is to take place shortly between Toronto University and McGill, is the event of the year as regards our McGill Literary Society. Last year the Faculty of Law had the honour of contributing one of the debaters; but this year, while not supplying its quota to the forces oratorical, is yet too well represented to have the slightest cause of complaint. One of our most energetic members is on the Committee, while our estimable confrère of the Second Year, Mr. A. C. Hanson, as President of the Literary Society, will officiate as chairman. Moreover, our Dean is to act as judge, and the task of weighing the respective arguments could not be entrusted to better hands. The debate is looked forward to with considerable interest, and a delightful evening is assured.

Criminal Law finishes this week. Now, gentlemen, gather in the *slack*. Exam. on the 23rd.

The Professor of Real Estate can tell a story to illustrate a point as well as most. That one about the cock that crew in the morning, while on the subject of Property Rights, shed a bright light on the point at issue, and put the boys in good humour. How these feathery bipeds sympathize with each other! Our old owl plucked up his side-intelligencers and twitched his stubby wings, and seemed to take a lively interest in the adventures of his first cousin in the Courts of Justice. It was new to him—none but owls have to do with things of the law. But how careful we should be in our dealings with the fowl world when the ante-matinal antics of a single muscular and high-spirited cock can involve two mighty nations in a momentous official correspondence, and even threaten ambassadors with dismissal and disgrace.

DINNER NOTES.—At last the First Year have loomed up in their proper importance. Mr. Cook's speech at the Dinner really opened our eyes. We have hitherto undervalued the Class of '97. The descendant of Brian Boru is now meeting with that respect and deference which is due to blue blood in a monarchially governed country like ours. The genius of William Pitt scintillates with a dazzling brilliance now that Mr. Cook has let us into the secret of his wonderful successes in the Mock Parliament, and we are in a position to appreciate him. Ah! *ces militaires*. What shall we say? We suspected that the Lieut-Col. had a martial bearing. Now we *know* it. Other orders are represented in the Year,—Captains are common. Let there be a Bond of union, however, between those who bear the sword in our Faculty, and us, peaceful civilians. As for H———n, we are going to watch him. Mr. Cook was deservedly congratulated for the way in which he presented the claims of the First Year at the Dinner.

Our popular President set the ball rolling in good shape, and was followed by the next undergraduate speaker in a very fine style. It was a formidable array for the apprehensive undergraduate to face, but of course the sight of the chairman had a very soothing effect on the nerves. By the way, the President was just the same the day following the Dinner as before. After hobnobbing with Ministers of Justice, and judges and high officials, we allowed a full week for his feathers to settle. But no, he was just the same the next day. He's the boy.

Some fellow has accused our friend Billy of imbibing freely in Apollinaris, mistaking the same for something more highly flavored. Of course this was well on in the proceedings, and we believe Apollinaris was drunk by a gentleman who sat near to William. He teetotally repudiates that accusation. We were not far away from him, and can personally corroborate his statement. He did nothing of the kind. He kept to healthy drink the whole evening. An insane man could not make such a mistake, and we know Billy has got some sense.

At a meeting on Friday last, the Dinner Committee were unanimously accorded a vote of thanks for the manner in which the dinner arrangements had been carried out. This was well deserved. The pronounced success of the meeting was undoubtedly due to the tact and diligence displayed by the Committee of Management.

FEATHERS FROM THE EAST WING.

When we have made books our constant companions day after day, we occasionally think they are "absolutely dead things," and long to put them down to talk with living things. A class lunch with one's fellow-students is the most delightful way of accomplishing this, as the Juniors would have you know. A few weeks ago they gathered round the festive board in the Third Year class-room, whose deformities were carefully draped for the occasion, and there they chatted and ate, drank healths and sang songs for two happy hours. 'Twere long to tell of the floral decorations, the ice cream which fairly melted in one's mouth, the toasts to such customary persons as the Queen, and Sir Donald, the butterfly menu cards, the oyster patties, cold around the gills (of the oyster), etc., etc., so let it suffice merely to mention them. When Duty's stern voice called, we went, wreathed in flowers and smiles, and left some hungry friends who had entered, to make the outside of the platter clean.

The verdant Donaldas held their first lunch on Tuesday, 29th January. The class-room was most artistically decorated, though on pushing back the graceful curtains the point attracting attention was the table lined with rich red roses. Everything was excellently managed, but the special feature was the toasts. The first to the Queen was heartily joined in, all rising to sing the national anthem except a disloyal Celt. But in the toast of Alma Mater the disloyal Celt came to the fore. The other toasts were wittily and eloquently responded to by Misses Scrimger, Carr and Codd. The disloyal Celt once more contributed to the general pleasure by singing a song entitled "Josephus and Bianchus." On leaving, everyone wondered how soon we could have another; but like Xmas, "they come but once a year, and when they come they bring good cheer."

Sundry tales are being whispered of such remarks as "moisten your lips and look pleasant" being made to our Seniors.

Professor Cox has kindly consented to be our representative at the Applied Science dinner.

The Class of '97 regrets that illness has caused the absence of so many of its members since the New Year; but we are very glad to announce their complete recovery, and to welcome them once more among us.

MEDICAL CLASS REPORTS.

Owing to the fact that the last issue of the FORTNIGHTLY contains an account of the opening of the new

Medical Buildings, it might not be inappropriate in this issue, to approach the subject very briefly from a student's point of view.

It is needless to remark that, as students of the University, we rejoice in the progress of all its branches; but we can also feel justly proud, when we remember that we are Undergraduates of the old and time-honoured Faculty of Medicine. And more especially can we feel so now, that this Faculty has at last reached such a high standard, and affords such facilities for the better equipment of its students with all that is necessary for their advancement, in almost every department.

When one considers, however, that such extensions of buildings and teaching facilities necessarily entails more work on the student, one might at first suppose (were he unacquainted with the medical student) that such changes would not be welcomed very enthusiastically. Such, however, is not the case. And this is not a cause for surprise, remembering, as we do, that the Medical Profession, above all other professions, requires thorough men to carry on her work with success and honour, and that such thoroughness alone can be obtained by persevering and methodical work.

And still another factor aids to make the change acceptable, and it is not to be wondered at that we hail with delight the modern improvements, when we recall the various degrees of myopia and strabismus, developed in an ill-lighted dissecting-room, while searching with fear and trembling for some structure microscopical in size and oftenest found in text-books, or the process of devitalizing our physical, mental and moral natures, in trying to imbibe lectures in Chemistry in a room where gases contrary to all physical laws, diffused, not according to the square root of their densities, but in direct proportion to their abnoxiousness.

But still we look for future changes. As we advance in our course and are thrown more in contact with the Professors of the Senior years, we are at first surprised to see the small extent of space allotted to them in the new building. When we look around to find the apartment allotted to the Professor of Medicine, we confess ourselves defeated in the search. That for the Professor of Surgery, too, seems totally inadequate, while the Associate Professors of Obstetrics and Gynæcology have been relegated to an obscure corner in the old building.

Yet, considering that didactic is giving place to clinical teaching, we see the reasonable explanation of this by looking to the rapid strides that have of late been made in general hospital facilities. There, General Medicine and Surgery and the special clinics all have ample scope for practical work and development along these lines, the Obstetrical department

alone having derived no benefits from these improvements, and the Professor of this branch still labors under immense disadvantages. As students, we feel that were it not due to the almost gratuitous services and indefatigable energies of our Professor, Dr. Cameron, the course as laid down in the curriculum for this branch would not be such as to thoroughly equip men in this most important branch of our study.

When one remembers how important an absolute knowledge of this subject is to every general practitioner, and that to a young man striving to build up a practice failure in this branch means almost certain neglect in those in which he may be competent, one is led to see how important a thorough training in this course becomes for his general success. And when women like the Countess of Aberdeen and Mrs. Ashley Carus-Wilson can become so intensely interested in such a work as this, and draw enthusiastic crowds to listen to the well-learned eulogies of the Montreal Maternity—surely here would be a field for extension, philanthropic in its nature, and reflecting credit on the Faculty, not only as such, but in the fact that, by the increase of practical training that could be thus afforded, men more thoroughly competent to practise their profession in all its branches would be the result.

That this will prove the next step in the advancement of the Medical Faculty is much to be desired.

However, still congratulating ourselves on the present facilities, and looking forward to the future, we wish for the same success and advancement to continue in our Faculty in the future as has been manifested so abundantly in the past.

W. W. Wickham, '95, by a unanimous vote of the students, represented the Medical Faculty at the last dinner given by the Law Students. He declares that he enjoyed himself to the fullness of his heart and *other viscera*.

Although as yet we are only in the first week of February, and convocation for degrees does not occur until the 4th of April, let not the Final men be deluded by the apparent long time. As a matter of fact, their examinations commence with clinical obstetrics about the 13th inst.; the hospital wards will close against them in about two weeks, and the other clinical examinations begin on the 4th of March. Consequently, we would advise them to be on the alert.

EXCHANGES.

We beg to remind our College contemporaries that

exchanges should be sent to the Editor in Chief, MCGILL FORTNIGHTLY, care McGill University Library.

For some unknown reason, many of our exchanges for this issue have not reached us. We take much pleasure, however, in acknowledging those which lie before us.

The *Student* is always welcome. It contains much college matter, which, though of a distinctly local character, cannot fail to be interesting because of the entertaining manner in which it is put. The joys and sorrows of University life are portrayed in a most graphic way, and appeal to students the world over.

The *Glasgow University Magazine* has its usual bright editorials, and some very charming verses, notably "Clear Shining after Rain."

Two clever stories, several short poems, and matter pertaining distinctly to the University of Vermont, combine in making the January number of the *University Cynic*, a readable one.

A plea for football, entitled "Foot-ball not brutal," in the *Bowdoin Orient*, will doubtless please all lovers of the game, while an urgent appeal to cultivate a taste for reading will be equally satisfactory to another class of its readers.

The *Owl* for January contains high tributes to Sir John Thompson, in both poetry and prose, and a short but comprehensive résumé of the life and writings of William Cullen Bryant. Perhaps the most striking article in the paper is "A Modern Sham." It deals justly, though severely, with the craze of Esoteric Buddhism, and after a brief statement of its beliefs asks a question which we echo:—"Is it not strange to see in a Christian age, descendants of Europeans, enlightened and highly civilized through the influence of Christianity, seeking from the semi-barbaric people of Asia, principles of philosophy, morals and theology?"

The *University Monthly* appears for the first time among our exchanges. It contains prose translations from Tourgénéff and Molière, besides other matter, several poems, and the local references necessarily common to every college magazine.

Among the many readable articles in *Acta Victoriana*, we can only mention one concerning the late Robert Louis Stevenson, (evidently from the pen of one of his admirers), and a most interesting account of the triennial examinations held by the Chinese Government for the degree of M.A. From it we learn that men of all ages there compete for an M.A., while out of fifteen thousand who annually strive for a degree, not one hundred succeed in obtaining it.

The *Dalhousie Gazette* presents its usual attractive

appearance. The editorial "About Valedictories" deals with a problem, which, sooner or later, must come to every University, and we would be pleased to find a satisfactory solution of the difficulty. A criticism on Tennyson's "Maud," and a well-written account of the women's college of Bryn Mawr constitute the portions most interesting to outsiders, while much space is devoted to personal matter, evidently pleasing to the frequenters of Dalhousie.

COLLEGE ITEMS.

The University of Toronto now allows students writing for honours on the matriculation examination exemption from the pass papers.

Emperor William of Germany has presented a trophy valued at 5,000 marks, to be competed for by the crews of the different German universities.

In the all-America football eleven, as made up by the *Boston Globe*, Yale has four men, Harvard four, and University of Pennsylvania three, with Hinkey as captain.

The American College League will soon publish a monthly in New York City. It will be edited by a board of editors from the leading colleges of the country.

President Eliot of Harvard, in a recent address advised students to thus apportion their time: Study ten hours. Sleep eight hours. Exercise two hours. Social duties one hour. Meals three hours.

Since the death of Holmes there are only four surviving members of the class of 1829 of Harvard, namely, Dr. Edward L. Cunningham of Newport, R. I.; the Rev. Samuel May (the class centenary), of Leicester; the Rev. Samuel F. Smith of Newton, the author of "America;" and Charles S. Storrow of Boston.

READABLE PARAGRAPHS.

Two students from the South were spending their holidays in Lerwick during the fishing season, and one of them, on seeing how cheaply the herring were being sold, was struck by a brilliant idea. Turning

to an old fisherman, he said: "It is very stupid of you, I think, to sell such herring at 50 for 6d. Why, if you take them down to London you could get 1s. 6d. a dozen for them easily!" The old fisherman scratched his head thoughtfully. "Mun," says he, "y're right, ye mon be frae ane o' the colleges, I suppose. It's a winner it never struck me afore. An' I'm jist thinkin' if ye could jist cart Loch Lomon' doon tae Hell an' sell it at a penny a mug-foo, ye'd mak ye're fortune in sax weeks."—*Glasgow University Magazine*.

A POETICAL SIGN BOARD.

"We won't print any such stuff as that!" said the editor loftily, as he handed back the manuscript to the ambitious gentleman from '98. "Well, you needn't be so haughty about it," retorted the latter. "You're not the first one who wouldn't print it." And having thus squelched the editor, he walked out of the sanctum.—*Ex.*

A lady, after looking over the books on the counter at one of our bookstores the other day, stepped up to a clerk and asked: "Have you 'Cometh'?" "'Cometh,' ma'm; I don't know of any book by that name." "Oh, don't you? Well, I saw a book here called 'Goethe,' and I thought likely there was a companion book by the name of 'Cometh'!"—*Boston Transcript*.

THANKFUL.

"I don't see what makes people go to football games on Thanksgiving Day," remarked his wife. "It hasn't anything to do with the spirit of the occasion."

"Oh, yes, it has," was the reply. "I never went to a football game in my life that I didn't feel tremendously thankful that I wasn't one of the players."

The above goes very well with the experience of the little girl, who locked up the dog in a dark closet while the family were at church Thanksgiving day, so that he might be thankful when they came home and let him out.

A BOGY.—On a certain festive occasion, a great French naturalist had dined not wisely but too well. When he retired to rest, his repose was troubled, and he dreamed a dream. It appeared to the slumbering naturalist that a sort of bogey entered the room, having something of the outward semblance of a cow. "I've

come to eat you!" roared the bogey. The naturalist eyed the animal with the unflinching and critical gaze of a scientific man. "Horns," he muttered to himself, "hoofs and a tail. Graminivorous! Impossible!"—and, so saying, he turned upon his side and saw no more of the ridiculous and untruthful cow that night.

—*Distaff*.

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